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on the hillsides. Other conspicuous plants are *Aragallus arcticus*, *A. nigrescens*, *Chamaecistus procumbens*, *Diapensia Lapponica*, *Lloydia serotina*, *Campanula lasiocarpa*, and various dwarf arctic willows. *Vaccinium uliginosum* and *V. Vitis-Idaea* are abundant and their fruits are of great economic importance to the natives.

The paper brought out an interesting discussion lasting till the hour for adjournment.

F. S. EARLE,
Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS

Professor L. M. Underwood has been elected chairman of the Section of Biology of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Professor J. C. Arthur, of Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, is spending a month at the New York Botanical Garden, engaged in some special mycological researches.

Dr. D. T. MacDougal, director of the laboratories of the New York Botanical Garden, left New York on January 13 to visit the Desert Botanical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution at Tucson, Arizona. He plans also to visit Lower California and will probably be absent from the Garden for about six weeks.

Dr. Burton E. Livingston, instructor in plant physiology in the University of Chicago, and Miss Winifred J. Robinson, instructor in botany in Vassar College, who have been devoting several months to studies in the laboratories of the New York Botanical Garden, returned to their respective institutions about the first of January.

The seventh meeting of the Society for Plant Morphology and Physiology was held at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, December 29-31, 1903. Fifteen papers were presented and discussed. No presidential address was given on account of the absence of the president, Professor Roland Thaxter. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: president, Dr. George T. Moore; vice-president, Professor Clara E. Cummings; secretary-treasurer, Professor W. F. Ganong. A committee of three was appointed to confer with committees from

other botanical societies upon the subject of union of the botanical societies of the country.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science held its fifty-third annual meeting at St. Louis, December 28, 1903, to January 2, 1904. Papers represented by thirty-seven titles were read before Section G (Botany), the program occupying four half days. Mr. F. V. Coville, retiring chairman of Section G, was absent and his vice-presidential address was accordingly omitted. A committee consisting of Professor C. E. Bessey, Dr. B. T. Galloway and Professor Conway MacMillan, was appointed to consider the movements now under way looking to the preservation of the Calaveras groves. On Friday morning, January 1, the Section went as a body to visit the Missouri Botanical Garden on the invitation of the director, Dr. William Trelease. Among the officers for the ensuing year, Professor W. G. Farlow was elected president of the Association; Professor B. L. Robinson, vice-president of the Association and chairman of Section G; Professor F. E. Lloyd, secretary of Section G.

The tenth annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America was held at St. Louis, December 28 to 30, 1903, under the presidency of Professor C. R. Barnes. The address of the past-president, Dr. B. T. Galloway, was entitled "What the Twentieth Century Demands of Botany"; this address was published in full in *Science* for January 1, 1904. In addition to the address, thirteen papers were presented. Officers were elected as follows: President, Mr. F. V. Coville; vice-president, Professor C. E. Bessey; secretary, Dr. D. T. MacDougal; treasurer, Dr. Arthur Hollick; councilors, Professor B. L. Robinson and Professor J. M. Coulter. Grants of \$150 to Dr. C. J. Chamberlin to aid a study of the spermatogenesis, oögenesis, and fertilization of *Diorn* and *Ceratozamia*; of \$150 to Professor F. E. Lloyd to aid a study of the comparative anatomy, transpiration and stomatal action of spinose and succulent plants, to be carried on at the Desert Botanical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution; and of \$50 to Professor J. C. Arthur to assist in making drawings of the Uredineae, were approved.